

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/019,287
Amendment filed February 20, 2007
Reply to OA dated November 21, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 6-8, 10, 11, 19-26, 28-30, 34-39, 41-51, 53-59, 61-71, 73-81 and 83-88 are pending in this application. Claims 19, 22, 35, 47, 67 and 77 have been amended herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 6-8, 10, 11, 19-26, 28-30, 34-39, 41-51, 53-59, 61-71, 73-81 and 83-88 will be pending.

The applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. The amendment to claim 19 corrects a minor typographical error. Support for the amendments to claims 22, 35, 47, 67 and 77 is detailed below. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **November 21, 2006**.

Regarding interview summary.

The Examiner has provided a written summary of a telephonic interview on November 1, 2006. The interview summary indicates that the Examiner initiated the interview, raising questions regarding the indefiniteness of claims 22, 35, 47, 67 and 77, and that no agreement was reached.

Claims 22, 35, 47, 67 and 77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. (Office action, page 3)

The rejection is overcome by the amendments to claims 22, 35, 47, 67 and 77.

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In the rejection, the Examiner refers to the definition of “alcohol component 1” and “alcohol component 2” in claim 19, and the phrase in claim 22: “the monohydric alcohol of 1 to 5 carbons (P) constituting said alcohol component 1.”

In the amendment, claim 22 has been amended in the first paragraph to recite that “alcohol component 1 is an alcohol mixture” and in the second paragraph to recite that “alcohol component 2 is an alcohol mixture.” Claim 19 recites that each of these alcohol components can be “a single alcohol or alcohol mixture,” and the amendment to claim 22 clarifies that in claim 22, alcohol component 1 and alcohol component 2 are limited to alcohol **mixtures**.

It will therefore be understood that the recitation of “alcohol mixture” for alcohol component 1 in claim 22 finds antecedent basis in the recitation of claim 19 that this component can be an “alcohol mixture.” This “alcohol mixture,” as recited in claim 19, comprises “a monohydric alcohol having 1 to 5 carbon atoms (P) and a monohydric alcohol having 6 to 18 carbon atoms (Q)” Claim 22 further limits alcohols (P) and (Q) of the mixture. The situation in the case of the “alcohol mixture” that is “alcohol component 2” is analogous.

Analogous amendments have been made in claims 35, 47, 67 and 77.

Reconsideration of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

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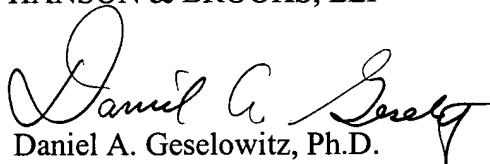
As claims 6-8, 10, 11, 19-21, 23-26, 28-30, 34, 36-39, 41-46, 48-51, 53-59, 61-66, 68-71, 73-76, 78-81 and 83-88 have been indicated as allowed, Applicant believes that the present amendment places the application in condition for allowance.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned agent at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



Daniel A. Geselowitz, Ph.D.

Agent for Applicant

Reg. No. 42,573

DAG/bh
Atty. Docket No. **011731**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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